

(3 mL) with aminopropyltrimethoxysilane ( $\text{H}_2\text{N}-\text{(CH}_2\text{)}_3-\text{Si}(\text{OCH}_3)_3$ , 480 mL, 10% molar excess) the resulting alcoholic immine is mixed with a portion of acidic sol stock TMOS solution previously prepared by mixing TMOS (29.5 mL),  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (3.6 mL), MeOH (32.40 mL) and HCl IN (140  $\mu\text{L}$ ). Thus, a portion of the sol stock mixture (3.28 mL) was partially neutralized with  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$  0.1 M (69.8  $\mu\text{L}$ ) and mixed together with 1.14 mL of the immine precursor solution. Methanol (7.41 mL) was subsequently added under stirring followed by  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (3.88 mL) to promote hydrolysis and condensation. As a formal acidity measure, pH (6.0) refers to the concentration of hydrogen ions in the total volume. The resulting mixture (Si:H<sub>2</sub>O:MeOH=1:5.5:6) gelled rapidly (10 min) in a transparent, elastic alcogel coloured in orange which was left at ambient temperature for 3 days and subsequently dried at 50°C resulting in a monolithic doped xerogel of 0.93 g. The sol described above was dried by removing the solvent under reduced pressure (15mm Hg) affording an orange areogel powder.

*B  
Concl'd*

Page 17, please amend the first paragraph

beginning on line 2 as follows:

The catalytic activity of the sol-gel materials  
doped with nitroxyl radical thus far described was tested

*PJ*

in different oxidative runs using  $\alpha$ -D-methylglucopyranoside and trans-cinnamyl alcohol as substrates along with aqueous hypobromite and CuCl/air as primary oxidants, respectively. In a typical sugar oxidation they catalytic oxidation reaction was carried out by adding granules of the doped materials (e.g. 0.247 g of a catalyst 3.70% (w/w) in TEMPO, or 0.352 g of a catalyst 3.24% (w/w) in 4-oxo-TEMPO) to an aqueous, solution of methyl- $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranoside (MGP, 1.0 g) and sodium bromide (0.10 g) in 200 mL H<sub>2</sub>O at 4°C. A cold hypochlorite solution (10 mL, 10% w/w) previously brought to pH 10 by adding 4M HCl, was then added at once. The pH was kept constant at 10 by adding 0.5M NaOH in order to neutralize the acid released during the reaction.

*2*  
*B*  
*CONF*

When the oxidation was completed (no more acid formation, typically 40 min), the reaction mixture was quenched by adding 96% ethanol (4 mL) and by changing the pH to 6 by addition of 4M HCl. The catalyst was filtered, and the product (sodium methyl- $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranosideuronate) was obtained from the filtrate by freeze-drying in a lyophylizer. The yield of the reaction was practically quantitative. For the next reaction cycle, the catalyst was washed with cold water and reused as such under the same conditions described above. The catalyst was reused in 3 subsequent similar oxidation runs of the same